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Torrance, California
March 3, 1959

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting at 5:30 P. M. Tuesday, March 3, 1959, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount. City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Remelmeyer were also present.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mr. Robert Carleson, Sr. Administrative Aide to the City Manager led the salute to the flag.

The meeting was opened with an invocation led by the Reverend John Taylor of the First Methodist Church.

Councilman Jahn moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 24, 1959, as written.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, no objections, so ordered.

Mayor Isen commented that our celebration of "Konya Day" had been most successful, and that he was sure the Committee had the thanks of the entire Council.

Mayor Isen introduced Mr. Somnez, the Turkish Consul stationed in San Francisco, who had come to Torrance for Konya Day and had stayed over to make several addresses at meetings and schools.

Mr. Somnez thanked the City for the observance of Konya Day, saying Konya is most enthusiastic about this program, and that he felt sure the observance of this would be an interesting and useful addition to the City-to-City program.

Mayor Isen explained the Council's procedure to the audience.

HEARINGS:

Mayor Isen announced that this was the time and place for the Hearing on: REPORT OF WEED AND RUBBISH ABATEMENT COSTS - 1958, a Public Hearing to hear any objections of property owners liable to be assessed for costs of abatement of weeds and rubbish and to consider the report of such costs.

City Clerk Bartlett presented the Affidavit of Publication of Notice of Public Hearing.

Councilman Benstead moved this be received and filed.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, no objections, so ordered.

The City Manager presented a written protest from George C. Crabtree, 1753 Gramercy Ave., dated March 1, 1959, which had been received too late to be placed on the Agenda.

Mayor Isen asked if this was the only protest received, and was told that was so.

Mayor Isen said if the lot was not in the Resolution of Intention, he did not think it was properly here.

Mr. Carleson told the Council the property was not listed on the Resolution of Intention, therefore, the contractor had no authority to clean the lot concerning which Mr. Crabtree had written. According to our agreement with the contractor, the charge for cleaning that lot could be stricken from the fee and the contractor would not be paid for cleaning it.

Councilman Beasley moved that be done.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, and carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone present wished to be heard in this matter.

There was no reply.

Councilman Beasley moved to close this Hearing.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, and carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present, (Blount absent).

Councilman Beasley moved to confirm the assessment and direct that the proper Resolution be prepared and presented here next week.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present (Blount absent).

Councilman Bradford referred to the letter from Mr. Crabtree, and said Mr. Crabtree had had the same opportunity to protest that others had, and he did not protest at the time he should have. He felt that Mr. Crabtree would have been more diligent in his duty if he had appeared here.

Mayor Isen agreed, but pointed out that Mr. Crabtree had saved himself \$27 by this; the proper time for the protest, he agreed, had been when the other protests were received.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A February 4, 1959, letter from the United States Conference of Mayors, inviting us to become formally associated with their work and activities. A schedule of the dues to this organization was attached to the letter, which was signed by Harry R. Betters, Executive Director.

Mayor Isen pointed out that the 1959 Annual Conference of this group will be held in Los Angeles, July 12-15, 1959, and said that regardless of the Council's action on this those Councilmen who do attend will find that this is well worth while.

Mayor Isen went on to say that there is a move on now to consolidate this with the American Municipal Association.

Councilman Drale moved this be tabled.

Motion seconded by Councilman Bradford, no objections, so ordered.

2. A February 23, 1959, letter from the Inter-City Highway Committee, signed by Wilburn E. Baker, President, asked that we contribute \$250 toward the legal fees and costs of preventing the closing of Pacific Avenue by the City of Los Angeles.

Councilman Beasley, our delegate to this Committee, said he had not recommended this because he could not see that it would affect our City.

Mayor Isen questioned whether this was an inter-city problem.

Councilman Beasley moved to table this request.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen.

This was discussed, and it was the consensus of the Council that this could be re-considered later if the Council wished.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

3. A February 17, 1959, letter from the Church of Christ, signed by Loran Biggs, Minister, was re-submitted. The letter concerned their plans for expansion of their present building, and had been held from the last meeting so that they might have a spokesman present.

There was a memo from the Planning Director appended, dated Feb. 19, in which Mr. Powell noted that the Church had an agreement with the Halverson Mortuary to use their parking lot on Sunday, and that the Church is within easy walking distance of the large public parking lot on Cravens and Marcelina.

The Reverend Biggs was present, and discussed this with the Council.

The City Manager presented to the Council the sketch of their proposed expansion.

Mayor Isen asked if this plan had been approved prior to the adoption of our parking ordinance, and was told that it had been.

In reply to questions, the Reverend Biggs said they do not own the lot north of the Church; that they have meetings on Sunday and on Wednesday mornings, and that they have several night meetings during the week; he asked that Mr. Barnett, one of their Trustees, be heard.

Mr. Barnett said about 1-1/2 years ago, the Reverend Prout had been their Minister. He thought this had come before the Council then. The other Churches in downtown Torrance had been allowed to build without off-street parking, so it had been decided they could also proceed in this fashion. He believed they had a letter to that effect in their files.

In reply to a question, the Planning Director said when the off-street parking ordinance was being discussed, the Council had pointed out that this would not affect churches in downtown Torrance. This church had asked to have this plan approved then, and it had been.

Councilman Blount joined the meeting at 5:50 P. M.

Councilman Jahn did not believe the Council had meant to exempt anyone from the off-street parking requirements in the down town area. He thought they had wanted the ordinance written so each case of this kind would come before the Council for individual consideration. He felt they should be able to build on their lot without furnishing the off-street parking required by the ordinance if the Council approved the request.

Mr. Barnett said this had been considered just before permission had been given to the Methodist Church and shortly after permission had been given to the Baptist Church for comparable additions. When they brought this here and it was approved, he added, they had intended to proceed at once to do this building, but circumstances had prevented them from doing so.

Mayor Isen asked if there had been a request from the Church to the Council for permission to build over this entire lot, and whether such a request had been approved.

Mr. Barnett said that had been done. He said to cover only part of their lot would be valueless to them.

The City Attorney said they would have to request a Variance to obey the legal procedures.

Mayor Isen said they were entitled to have the thinking of the Council on the request.

Councilman Beasley pointed out that they have little parking at the curbs in the area, and Councilman Bradford said he felt the people who attend the church would not mind walking a block or so.

The large State-owned parking lot nearby was discussed, and Mayor Isen said he understood that the State will build on that lot soon.

Councilman Drale asked if the requests of this Church, the Methodist Church, and the Baptist Church had all come about at the same time.

Mr. Powell said they had.

Councilman Drale said the Methodist and Baptist Churches had not been required to furnish parking, and he moved to grant the request.

Councilman Bradford seconded the motion.

Councilman Jahn said he would like to have Mr. Powell furnish the Council with information on the previous consideration of this which had been discussed.

Planning Director Powell said the first set of plans for improvement of this Church had been presented at about the same time the other churches presented their plans, before the parking ordinance became effective.

Councilman Bradford said the churches in downtown Torrance cannot buy property for parking because little of it is for sale. He had believed that any new church being built would have to conform to the parking ordinance, but that the old ones would not.

Councilman Drale, with permission of his second, amended his motion to require that this follow the required procedure for variance from the requirements.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Isen told the men from the Church that they would have to make the proper application through the Planning Commission for a Variance.

4. A February 24, 1959, letter from J. B. Franks, 26003 Crest Road, Torrance, concerned leasing property on approach line of Torrance Airport. The letter urged that expert advisement be sought in this matter, and added that he had no commercial interest whatever in any airport operations or properties. He spoke as a man with over 10,000 hours of airline flying in many parts of the world, plus six years as an aircraft engineer with the Douglas Aircraft Company.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Manager if he had any report on this.

The City Manager said he did not know too much about this, but he and Mr. Egan had met with 5 officials of the FAA this afternoon to discuss the effect on our airport of allowing buildings to be put up on the 200' of land which has had a restriction against building. This was brought about by the Mayflower request for release of the restriction. There had been a question as to whether this would not keep us from ever having an instrumented landing strip. It was the consensus of those men that if we put in a TVOR system this building would not prevent it. The building would, however, keep us from putting in a LIA system, but they did not think we would want it anyway.

This was discussed at some length.

Councilman Blount asked if this would prevent us from having the Government operate our tower, and Airport Manager Egan said that phase had not been discussed, but he did not believe it would.

Councilman Blount said he would like to have them tell us that.

Mr. Franks, who had written the letter on this, was not present.

Councilman Jahn asked if Mr. Allen had been at the meeting, and the City Manager said he was.

Councilman Jahn said he had been the one to bring up the possibility of the Government not operating the tower, so if he had not brought it up at the meeting in all likelihood this would not prevent it.

Councilman Jahn said before the Mayflower restriction is released, he would like to know if, in using the "TVOR" system, we would have the same as the 'omni' approach listed in the Jepson manual.

Mr. Egan said he could not be sure.

Councilman Jahn said he would like to have the answer to that.

Mayor Isen said he would like to have Mr. Franks here to discuss this. He thought the letter from him was most instructive.

There were no objections, and this matter was ordered held over for a week, so Mr. Egan could get the answers to these questions and get in touch with Mr. Franks and ask him to attend the next meeting.

Councilman Blount asked if the TVOR presently operated at Santa Monica would be the type we are talking about, and Mr. Egan said yes.

Councilman Jahn said Santa Monica is not listed as an instrument approach.

Mr. Egan said there is a fine distinction between an instrument approach and riding the radio facility below the ceiling. He thought someone from the FAA should answer that question.

It was agreed that the Council wants a first-class airport there, and to hold this over for a week so Mr. Egan can follow up on this.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

1. With a letter dated February 26, 1959, the City Manager submitted the following recommendations for the Council's consideration and approval:

PERSONNEL:

a) Miss Pauline Greer, Account Clerk in the Finance Department, appealed to the Civil Service Board for additional compensation as an Accountant during the absence of Mr. Jack Hallanger, who held the classification of Accountant. A study was made of the request and of the actual performance of duties during this period. It was the opinion of Mr. Scharfman and the Civil Service Board that Miss Greer did not perform the duties of an Accountant during this period, but that she should be entitled to compensation as a Sr. Account Clerk for the period, in the amount of \$34.15. The period involved is approximately 2-1/4 months.

I concur with the above recommendation.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager.

Councilman Drale asked the City Manager if Mr. Hallanger had been absent for that period of time.

The City Manager said he had, and that Mr. Scharfman had come and was put in charge about 2-1/2 months after Mr. Hallanger left.

Councilman Drale seconded Councilman Jahn's motion.

Miss Greer was present, and read a lengthy statement giving her reasons for thinking she should get paid as an Accountant during that period of time.

Councilman Jahn said the Council could not determine that, and Mayor Isen thought the matter should be handed to the Civil Service Board and the statement read to them.

Miss Greer said she had asked to meet with the Board, the City Manager and Mr. Scharfman, but she said the City Manager had set that meeting on a holiday, so she was not able to attend.

The City Manager said this had been gone into very carefully, and it was the opinion of Mr. Scharfman and the Civil Service Board that Miss Greer had not performed the duties of an accountant.

Mayor Isen said she should be allowed to be present at the time of such a discussion.

Councilman Jahn said the statement should have been presented to the Civil Service Board, and their recommendation should be sent to the Council.

Councilman Bradford said she had been to the Civil Service Board, and Councilman Beasley asked if the City Manager had a recommendation from them.

The City Manager said this was their recommendation.

Mayor Isen moved a substitute motion, to refer this to the Civil Service Board for review and that they send their recommendation on it to the Council.

Substitute motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Drale, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Bradford, Jahn. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Drale asked if we have accountants working in the Finance Dept. who are not under Civil Service, and the City Manager said we do not.

Mayor Isen suggested Miss Greer get in touch with the Secretary of the Civil Service Board, Mr. Walter Bradford, and give him this information.

Councilman Bradford thought this should be transmitted through the City Manager.

Mayor Isen explained to Miss Greer that the Council does not act on personnel matters, but would act on a financial recommendation.

APPROPRIATIONS:

- a) For the purchase of a Ziess Ni 2-level for the Engineering Dept., the sum of \$550 plus tax. This sum is covered in the Department's budget.
- b) For the purchase of 790 street sign standards, the sum of \$606.32, including sales tax.
- c) For the purchase of a Remington electric typewriter for the City Treasurer, the sum of \$382.50 plus sales tax (a Budget Item).

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with the recommendations of the City Manager.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Beasley referred to the Greer matter, and said he would like to be sure this comes back here.

Councilman Jahn told the City Attorney he thought there was a fine

line here; he thought this should be clarified.

Councilman Bradford thought all the Council had to do with this was to concur or not with payment for extra duties. Whether or not this is paid, it should be under the proper procedure.

At 6:30 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council re-convening at 6:40 P. M.

2. With a letter dated February 26, 1959, the City Manager submitted a copy of a Resolution which the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Sou. California has requested the City to adopt, opposing Assembly Bill No. 286.

In reply to a question, the City Manager said he would personally recommend adoption of such a resolution.

Councilman Beasley moved that the City Council adopt such a resolution.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Bradford, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Isen directed the City Attorney to prepare the proper Resolution.

REPORTS:

1. Assistant Chief of Police Porter told the Council that he and Councilman Drale had tested the brakes on the cars. The brakes on the 1959 Chevrolet had performed satisfactorily.

Councilman Benstead moved that Paul's Chevrolet be given the bid.

Motion seconded by Councilman Bradford, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At this time, Councilman Drale asked to go on record about bids, saying he does not think the Council is getting reports on these which are simple enough or direct enough. He thought any bid coming here should be definite and, as an example, state one type of brake and all bidders should bid on it.

Mayor Isen said the comment from Councilman Drale would be in the record.

2. The office of the City Clerk reported that they have on file in their office the following:

- a. Annual Report of Financial Transactions concerning Cities of California for the Fiscal Year 1957-58 from Robert C. Kirkwood, State Controller.
- b. Annual Report of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for 1958.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD:

1. A February 25, 1959, letter from the Civil Service Board, signed by W. C. Bradford, Secretary submitted a recommendation to the Council that employees be allowed to accumulate 120 days of sick leave instead of 60 days as at present, and that the accumulated sick leave be a part of an employee's severance pay when an employee voluntarily resigns or retires from the City's employ.

Councilman Beasley said he understood the Board is having Hearings toward re-vamping the Civil Service Ordinance.

Councilman Jahn said this is a recommendation from them. He questioned whether the sick leave should be allowed to accumulate to 120 days.

Mayor Isen said he would like to have a recommendation on that from management.

Councilman Benstead did not think our ordinance was based on the County's ordinance.

Councilman Drale said he would like to have an interpretation from

the Legal Dept. as to whether this can be done under our Charter.

The City Attorney told him this can be done under our Charter.

Councilman Drale said he would like to have that in writing from the City Attorney.

Councilman Beasley said this would add a great cost to our budget.

Councilman Jahn said he would move concurrence, with the exception of the last paragraph about increasing the sick leave which can be accumulated from 60 to 120 days.

Councilman Blount seconded that.

In reply to a question, the City Manager thought before this was approved, we should know exactly what we are talking about; this should not be in this year's budget. There was no provision made for it. A study should be made; he said the County has a system which has some other good points which might be adopted.

Councilman Jahn, with permission of his second, moved to refer this to the City Manager for his report on it.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Councilman Drale added that he still wanted a written report from the City Attorney on whether or not the Council can do this under our Charter.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CIVIL DEFENSE COMMISSION:

1. With a letter directed February 26, 1959, George C. Powell, Asst. Director of Civil Defense, transmitted to the Council the Commission's recommendation that the City's share in the Area G Civil Defense Agreement Plan be paid; the amount is \$1,027, a budget item.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur with this recommendation.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION:

1. With a letter signed by R. S. Cramer, Chairman, and dated February 27, 1959, the Park & Recreation Commission recommended that the 4-1/2 acres marked on a map submitted with the letter be (a) reserved for park purposes in the Victor Precinct; (b) that an appraisal be made; (c) consider purchasing in accordance with our past recommendation dated January 20, 1959, that subdivision money received in the Park & Recreation Fund be applied on the purchase price, any unpaid balance to be finally paid from the General Fund.

Councilman Jahn asked how this can be reserved.

Councilman Beasley thought the Council had concurred with the City Manager on this already.

The City Manager said this is a different area. He thought we could work out a plan with the schools for having this appraised.

Mayor Isen moved to refer this to the City Manager for a report.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley.

Councilman Benstead asked when we would get the report, and the City Manager said he would try to work with the school officials at once.

Mayor Isen amended his motion, to ask that the City Manager use his judgment and order an appraisal if he can get it with the school appraisal.

Amendment seconded by Councilman Beasley, and the motion, as amended, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn had been under the impression that we had been talking about Item b only, and not Items a and c, and he asked if he was correct on this.

Mayor Isen said he was.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE LICENSE DEPARTMENT:

1. A Feb. 21, 1959, letter from Stanley Watts, A-1 Taxi Service,

and operator of P. V. Yellow Cab, 4069 Bluff, Torrance, asked for permission to have two additional permits.

Memos from the Asst. Chief of Police and License Inspector were appended; Asst. Chief Porter said his department had no objection to this, and License Inspector Whitacre recommended this be granted subject to the filing of the additional insurance to cover these new cabs.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the request.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. A February 25, 1959, letter from the St. Vincent de Paul Society, signed by A. A. Tassi, Mgr., asked for a renewal of their free license for pick-up of salvage in the City.

A memo from License Inspector Whitacre was attached, and stated that Assist. Chief Porter had approved this request, and saying he recommended a free license be granted for the year 1959.

Councilman Beasley moved to concur with this recommendation.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:

1. With a letter dated February 27, 1959, Acting City Engineer Bishop submitted to the Council a report on the PRAIRIE AVENUE EXTENSION from 190th St. southerly. This report had been requested by the Council at their February 17 meeting. The summary in the letter contained an estimated cost as follows:

a) Right of Way Acquisition	\$200,000
b) Roadway Construction	\$250,000
c) Special Structures:	\$300,000

Total: \$750,000

The letter stated this was a rough preliminary figure. An alternate route was briefly discussed, and its cost was roughly estimated at \$475,000.

Mayor Isen suggested this should go to the Staff for a recommendation.

Councilman Drale did not see why the City should be responsible for any special structures such as these underpasses.

Mayor Isen said if we were there under a condemnation, they will argue that matter in court, and we would probably have to do that.

Councilman Jahn said the PUC usually determines the cost to each party in such cases, and if we force this road through there, as the company has been there a long time, he believed the PUC would consider us as being responsible for the larger part of the cost.

Mayor Isen gave his copy of this report to Mrs. Jeanne Gerald, for the information of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association.

There were no objections, and this was ordered referred to the Staff for a report on this and on the alternate route.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION:

1. With a letter dated Feb. 26, 1959, Planning Director Powell submitted the following recommendations from the Planning Commission meeting of February 18, 1959, for approval of Waivers:

Robert W. Demers, 21047 Amie Ave., requesting addition to existing dwelling on the side, at above address.

H. F. Eggum, 17240 Yukon Ave., requesting a 5' rear yard Waiver on the west 111.5' of Lot 36, La Fresa Tract, (between Yukon & Patronella), per plot plan submitted.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the Planning Commission on these.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY:

1. The City Attorney submitted a memo on the abandonment of Lot P-6 for use by the Torrance Rod & Gun Club, with a letter to the Rod & Gun Club from Remco, and a proposed Resolution declaring intention to vacate Lot P-6.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone was present from the Rod & Gun Club, and Mr. Malloy, 2005 Middlebrook, came forward.

Mayor Isen said he did not object to the Club having this, but he could not see why Remco should have \$5,000 for the land, when the property actually has been City property for many years. He knew this was a common practice of Remco, but he did not think it was right.

Councilman Drale said he did not disagree with the Mayor, but he asked if there was any solution to this.

Mayor Isen suggested they find another location, but Mr. Malloy said this was most satisfactory to them.

Mr. Malloy said the Club was prepared to pay the \$5,000 for this land, and that it would not suit them to use a City-owned building for their club. He said they would not mind other groups using their building, but they want to manage it.

The City Attorney explained that Remco had reversionary rights to this land if and when the City vacates it.

Mayor Isen said he would like to see Remco give the money they get for this land to the Park & Recreation Fund. He thought if the Club pays this much for the land, the City should get part of it.

Mayor Isen thought that Remco had intended letting them have this land for \$100 or so when the City vacated it.

Councilman Benstead explained to Mr. Malloy that it costs the City money to process such things as this.

Mr. Malloy said he had no objections, and Mayor Isen directed this be held over for a week to see if something can be worked out on this. Mayor Isen said the Council wanted the Club to have the land, however, the land cannot be sold as long as the City has it.

2. With a letter dated February 26, 1959, the City Attorney gave the Council a report on his negotiations with Mr. Rosenthal about the walkway on his property which the City paved without permission. This walkway extends westward along Torrance Blvd. from the Bishop Montgomery School, and is a strip of land 4½ ft. wide and about 880 ft. long. A sketch of the property was submitted by the City Attorney. Mr. Rosenthal has agreed to grant the City a revocable license to use the land if the City will pay or cancel the taxes attributable to the land occupied by the walkway from the date of the City's occupancy.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with this agreement.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and as there were no objections it was so ordered.

RESOLUTIONS:

Councilman Jahn moved that after the Clerk has given a number and read the title to any ordinance or resolution on tonight's agenda, the further reading thereof be waived; reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilman the right to demand the reading of any such ordinance or resolution in regular order.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

1. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 3638

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO
EXECUTE AND ATTEST THAT CERTAIN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN
THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL
DISTRICT FOR WATER SERVICE TO COLUMBIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3638.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley.

Councilman Blount pointed out Item 3 on Page 1 of the agreement, asking if this is an agreement between the City and the School District. The City Attorney said it was.

Councilman Blount said that Item 3 required payment of only half the cost of this by the schools, and asked where the rest of the money was to come from.

The City Attorney said he had prepared this as requested by Mr. McVicar, and he did not know how that would be taken care of.

This was discussed at some length.

Councilman Jahn said this is on 186th St. west of Hawthorne, and the area is served by another water company; if we lay this line, he asked how we would recover the other half of the cost.

There were no objections, and Mayor Isen ordered this held over until next week so Mr. McVicar can be present to answer questions on this.

ORDINANCES:

1. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1067

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING THE CONSTRUCTION, ERECTION OR ALTERATIONS OF BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES IN THE AREA SERVED BY NARBONNE RANCH WATER COMPANY NO. 2 AND NARBONNE RANCH WATER COMPANY NO. 3 TO BE A MENACE TO HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE AND PROHIBITING THE ISSUANCE OF BUILDING PERMITS FOR CONSTRUCTION THEREIN, AND REPEALING URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 1066.

Councilman Jahn moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1067 at its second and final reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Blount, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Bradford. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

2. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1068

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING A SECTION TO CHAPTER 18 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954", PROHIBITING STANDING OR SITTING ON STREETS, SIDEWALKS, ETC., SO AS TO OBSTRUCT FREE PASSAGE.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 1068 at its second and final reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1069

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS IN CHAPTER 25 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954", RELATING TO GENERAL DEFINITIONS.

Councilman Benstead moved to approve Ordinance No. 1069 at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

4. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1070

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 25 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" RELATING TO THE DEFINITION AND REGULATION OF SURFACE WATERS.

Councilman Drale moved to approve Ordinance No. 1070 at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

5. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1071

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 25 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954", RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF WORDS AND TERMS THEREIN AND REQUIRING CERTAIN PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS TO BE INSTALLED ON OR ADJACENT TO COMMERCIAL PROPERTY.

Councilman Beasley moved to approve Ordinance No. 1071 at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1072

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING ARTCILE IV OF CHAPTER 25 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954", REGULATING THE WIDTH OF DRIVEWAY OPENINGS, THE DISTANCE BETWEEN DRIVEWAY OPENINGS AND CONSTRUCTION THEREOF, AND SUBSTITUTING A NEW ARTCILE IV RELATING TO THE SAME SUBJECT MATTER.

Councilman Benstead moved to approve Ordinance No. 1072 at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

7. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1073

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REVISING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF ARTICLE II, CHAPTER 25 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" REGULATING THE MAKING AND REFILLING OF EXCAVATIONS, CUTS AND FILLS IN STREETS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES AND THE CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS THEREON AND THEREIN AND PLACING SAID PROVISIONS IN ARTICLE VI OF SAID CODE.

Councilman Beasley moved to approve Ordinance No. 1073 at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

8. Councilman Jahn referred to Page 2 of this proposed Ordinance, and asked why this was changed to 18".

Bldg. Supt. Schlens said the reason is because of building foundations.

Councilman Jahn thought this would cover grading, but he could not see what this had to do with foundations.

Bldg. Supt. Schlens explained that under this, a builder could go to 18" without a special permit.

This was discussed at some length, and Bldg. Supt. Schlens, in reply to a question, said he would recommend this. He felt this would save money for people in the future, and prevent law suits.

Councilman Jahn said it would be better for builders, but he felt this was taking away the rights of citizens and he is opposed to it.

Councilman Bradford agreed that this protected people.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1074

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REVISING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF ARTICLE II, CHAPTER 25 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" REGULATING EXCAVATING, FILLING AND OTHER GRADING OF REAL PROPERTY AND PLACING SAID PROVISIONS IN ARTICLE VII OF SAID CODE.

Councilman Beasley moved for approval of Ordinance No. 1074 at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Draile and Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Jahn. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

9. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1075

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING ARTICLE VIII TO CHAPTER 25 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" ESTABLISHING A FEE FOR THE VACATION OF CITY-OWNED LAND.

Councilman Jahn moved to approve Ordinance No. 1075, at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

10. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1076

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXEMPTING CERTAIN PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED FROM THE PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 716 PROHIBITING BUILDING IN THE WALTERIA LAKE PROPERTY.

Councilman Beasley moved to approve Ordinance No. 1076 at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jah, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

11. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1077

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING ARTICLE II ENTITLED "WEEDS, RUBBISH, ETC., UPON STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND PRIVATE PROPERTY" OF CHAPTER 13 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954".

Councilman Benstead moved to approve Ordinance No. 1077 at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

12. City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 1078

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 17.35 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954".

Councilman Jahn moved approval Ordinance No. 1078 at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 7:25 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council reconvening at 7:35 P. M.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. City Manager Stevens said the matter of some buildings on the airport being built onto our property there instead of on their leases was supposed to be on this agenda, but he had not been able to get it ready. He said one of the members of the Commission was present to discuss this with the Council, and he presented a map showing those leases which are over-built in this manner.

The Council looked at the map, and discussed it with the City Manager and Airport Commissioner Floyd, who was present.

Mayor Isen said the Commissioner had given the Council a report on the matter which had been on the agenda last week; due to the problems involved, this was once more referred back to the City Manager and the City Attorney to determine whether or not these people should pay rent on the land they are using which is not covered by their leases.

2. Councilman Beasley said that twice in the recent past, the Council has discussed the question of cleaning up alleys in the City. They have discussed ways of having the people who get the alleys behind their homes so dirty pay for cleaning them. The Ordinance the Council had approved tonight may be useful in this respect. He thought the Staff should consider this, and come up with a definite idea of enforcing this alley cleaning with the people to pay for it. He thought we should have some program for enforcement.

Mayor Isen directed the City Attorney to bring the Council whatever recommendation the Staff can make on this.

Councilman Beasley said the owners of the property adjacent to the dirty alleys contribute to the clutter, and Councilman Bradford said the rubbish collectors also cause part of this.

Councilman Beasley thought perhaps we should put on a crew of men to clean the alleys and keep them clean, charging where the people do not cooperate in this effort to keep Torrance clean.

3. Councilman Blount asked the City Manager when work will begin again on Lomita Boulevard.

The City Manager said we had been promised it would be by the end of February, but he would check on it.

Councilman Blount asked the Mayor to appoint a Committee from the Council to appear before the PUC without benefit of Counsel or Administration on the various matters the City needs from them.

There were no objections, and Mayor Isen appointed the Council a Committee of the Whole, saying if they all go it might do more good. He thought that Mr. Blount would be a good spokesman for the City in this.

4. Councilman Blount requested the Traffic Commission face facts and do something about the parking on Carson around the State building there. He said there is parallel parking on one side and angle parking on the other.

Councilman Jahn asked if this is a parking or traffic problem, and Councilman Blount said it is a traffic problem.

5. Councilman Blount asked when the work on Carson Street will be done.

The City Manager said one of these contracts had been let as late as January 20, and the contractor had pulled his equipment off other jobs to rush through this important section of the job.

Mayor Isen said there is a very bad situation at Maple and Carson.

Councilman Benstead agreed.

The City Manager said he would try to find out when this work will be done. They did everything they could while the equipment was here.

Acting City Engineer Bishop said he had been informed they will be back on the job on Carson St. tomorrow.

Councilman Blount asked what was done at the service station at Carson and Maple.

The City Manager said they put in an underground drain there.

6. Councilman Bradford said when a contractor moves in on a job and breaks the pavement off abruptly, he should bevel off that break. Our inspectors should enforce this in the interests of safety.

7. Councilman Bradford referred to a condition existing at the BMW Company on Abalone. He said some work was done on the sidewalk there and he presumed there had been an inspector there. If that was so, he felt we should find out who the inspector was and give him a lesson in safety. He allowed the contractor to put two 2 x 4's in the ground there at a dangerous height instead of the standard barricades. Councilman Bradford said he had fallen over this 2 x 4, which was at ankle height. The contractor should have to use the standard barricades. We can enforce the law. He felt contractors should maintain their excavations until a job is completed. He did not want these people coming here and thinking they could get by without observing safety precautions. He said he had heard the remark that Torrance is the contractor's friend. He did not know whether we needed an ordinance for this, but the contractors know what they have to do. They should have to protect the welfare of the people using the sidewalks of the City.

8. The City Attorney requested that when the Council adjourned, they would adjourn until 7:10 P. M. tomorrow night, Wednesday, March 4, 1959, for an annexation matter.

It was agreed to do so.

8. Councilman Drale suggested that if the Water Dept. had any surplus money, the Water Commission consider having them invest it so it would be earning interest money for the City.

The City Manager said this is done; we do that every year when we have surplus funds.

10. Councilman Jahn referred to the last page of the Airport Commission Minutes of February 26, 1959; it is stated there that he had made false statements. He did not believe anyone should make such a statement as that without having all the facts. He had received his information from what he believed to be a reliable source, and the information had been re-affirmed to him.

Commissioner Floyd of the Airport Commission and Councilman Jahn debated this question briefly.

Councilman Blount stated that he did not like to see any Councilman chastised in Commission Minutes; he did not believe Councilman Jahn had deliberately made a false statement; he wanted the record to show that he was sick and tired of Councilmen being castigated by the Commissioners, who are, after all, responsible to the City Council.

Councilman Jahn said the Council hires experts to manage various City departments, but it is the duty of the Councilmen, when they feel that things may be going too far, to report these things in public and ask that corrections be made. This is done only to prevent grievous error in the future.

11. Mayor Isen spoke again of Konya Day; he said it had been a great success, and the Committee should be thanked. He suggested this become an annual event, to be observed on February 28, and, on Leap Years, that it should be a 2-day event embracing February 29 as well. This could become an activity of the City which would have color and tremendous possibilities. He asked that the record show that with the concurrence of the Councilmen, this is the recommendation of the Council.

Upon being polled on this question, the Councilmen concurred unanimously with this.

12. Mayor Isen said the Ordinance making the Planning Commission a 7-man Commission became effective March 2, 1959. The Commissioners whose terms had expired had served until their successors were appointed by this Council. There are three whose terms have expired, and there are only 2 vacancies on the Commission.

Councilman Benstead suggested that the names of those 3 Commissioners, all of whom have served and worked on this Commission to the best interest of the City, should be tossed into a hat and two drawn out, and those two should be re-appointed.

Councilman Drale said he would go along with that.

Mayor Isen agreed that all of these men have done a splendid job, but he did not think that method of appointment was appropriate. Mayor Isen said that since Councilman Beasley had left the Commission, there has been one vacant seat there; that created a 3-year term and there is one 4-year term to fill.

Mayor Isen nominated Kenneth Uyeda for the 4-year term to expire January 11, 1963, and Mr. Bert Lynn to fill the 3-year term to expire January 11, 1962. He asked that the Council be polled on the nomination of Kenny Uyeda.

Councilman Drale said there has just been some criticism of the Commission, and he thought every Councilman should have something to say about them. They are appointed here by one man. He did not think this was fair to the City. He thought each Councilman should have an appointment on the Planning Commission, and that the term of each appointee should run concurrently with the term of the Councilman who had appointed him.

Mayor Isen protested; he did not think there was a city in the United States where there is such a Commission. He said that our system is a democratic one and each appointment is confirmed by the majority of the Council.

Councilman Drale thought John Mulvihill should be reappointed to the Commission.

Mayor Isen said the Council had adopted the ordinance providing for a 7-man Commission, and the ordinances of the City provide for the Mayor to make the appointments, which are to be approved by a majority of the City Council.

Councilman Benstead and Councilman Drale discussed this system and the history of appointments briefly.

Councilman Beasley moved for the question.

Councilman Drale asked to have the record of Commissioner Fleetwood's appointment made available.

The poll for approval of the appointment of Kenny Uyeda to the Planning Commission showed that the Council did not approve the appointment by the following vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Bradford, Drale. ABSTAIN: COUNCILMAN: Benstead. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Blount stated he had voted against the system and not against Mr. Uyeda.

The appointment of Bert Lynn to the Planning Commission was approved by the following vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Bradford, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale. ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEN: Benstead. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jahn asked if the Mayor would now make other nominations until one is made which the majority of the Council approves, and Mayor Isen said he would.

Mayor Isen asked the City Attorney if Mr. Uyeda would serve until his successor is chosen, and the City Attorney replied he would have to check the law on that point.

13. Roger Holmes, Exalted Ruler of the Torrance Elks, spoke to the Council about the work they have been doing in narcotics; he said they are planning to go to Sacramento about this. They would like to have members of the Council and the Police Dept. go with them.

Mayor Isen said Councilman Benstead would like to go to Sacramento with them, and he moved that Councilman Benstead be allowed to go with this delegation, with appropriate expenses being paid, to bring a report to the Council on this.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley.

Mr. Holmes said they would like to have more than one member of the Council go with them, as well as a representative of the Police Dept.

The City Attorney said the legality of this might be questioned.

Councilman Jahn moved a substitute motion, that at least 3 members of this Council, Councilmen Benstead and Blount having expressed a wish to go, go to Sacramento on March 9 with appropriate expenses paid, as a good will gesture on the part of this City Council.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn, with permission of his second, amended the motion to include a member of the Police Department.

The amendment was approved unanimously by the Council, by roll call vote.


14. Councilman Jahn moved all bills properly audited be paid.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

15. Councilman Beasley moved to adjourn to 7:10 P. M. Wednesday, March 4, 1959, and that the Council be reminded of this by the City Manager.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 P. M.


City Clerk of the City of Torrance,
California

APPROVED:


Mayor of the City of Torrance